UNIVERSITÉ Concordia UNIVERSITY

BG-2009-7

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Held on Thursday, November 5, 2009, immediately following the meeting of the Corporation in the Norman D. Hébert, LLD Meeting Room (Room EV 2.260), SGW Campus

PRESENT

Governors: Mr. Peter Kruyt, *Chair,* Dr. Shimon Amir, Mr. Robert Barnes, Dr. Tien Bui, Hon. Baljit Singh Chadha, Me Francesco Ciampini, Me Rita de Santis, Ms. Leah Del Vecchio, Mr. Jean-Pierre Desrosiers, Ms. Suzanne Gouin, Prof. Arpi Hamalian, Ms. Mahboubeh Khani, Dr. Lawrence Kryzanowski, Mr. Andrew Molson, Me Marie-José Nadeau, Ms. Sabahat Naureen, Mr. Prince Ralph Osei, Ms. Patricia Saputo, Dr. Johanne Sloan, Dr. Peter Stoett, Ms. Annie Tobias, *Vice-Chair,* Mrs. Lillian Vineberg, Mr. Jonathan Wener, *Vice-Chair,* Dr. Judith Woodsworth, *President and Vice-Chancellor*

Non-voting Observers: Ms. Jean Freed

Officers of the University: Ms. Kathy Assayag, Mr. Roger Côté, Dr. Louise Dandurand, Mr. Larry English, Me Bram Freedman

Guests: Mr. Sami Antaki, Me Frederica Jacobs, Me Jonathan Levinson

ABSENT

Governors: Sister Françoise Boisvert, Mr. Charles G. Cavell, Mr. James Cherry, *Vice-Chair,* Mr. Amine Dabchy, Mr. Howard Davidson, Mr. Brian Edwards, *Vice-Chair,* Ms. Hélène Fortin, Mr. David Gobby, Mr. Norman Hébert jr., Mrs. Judith Kavanagh, Dr. Arvind K. Joshi, Me John Lemieux, Mr. Tony Meti, Mr. David P. O'Brien, *Chancellor,* Mr. Jacques St-Laurent, Mr. Ivan Velan

Non-voting Observers: Dr. Graham Martin

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kruyt called the Open Session to order at 8:16 a.m. He congratulated CSU President Amine Dabchy and his team for the successful orientation events held in September.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Khani, Osei), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2009-7-5 *THAT the Agenda be approved, and that items 3 to 7 be approved, confirmed or received for information by consent.*

CONSENT

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of September 23, 2009

R-2009-7-6 *The Minutes of the Open Session meeting of September 23, 2009 were approved by consent.*

4. Monthly reports

4.1 Executive Director – University Communications Services – Mr. Sami Antaki (Document BG-2009-7-D2)
4.2 Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Relations – Ms. Kathy Assayag (Document BG-2009-7-D3)
4.3 Acting Vice-President, Services - Mr. Roger Côté (Document BG-2009-7-D4)
4.4 Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies – Dr. Louise Dandurand (Document BG-2009-7-D5)
4.5 Vice-President, Finance - Mr. Larry English (Document BG-2009-7-D6)
4.6 Vice-President, External Relations and Secretary-General – Me Bram Freedman (Document BG-2009-7-D7)
4.7 Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs – Dr. David Graham (Document BG-2009-7-D8)

The monthly reports were provided for information purposes.

5. Annual report from the Office of Rights and Responsibilities (Document BG-2009-7-D9)

This report was received for information.

6. Establishment of an Evaluation Committee for the Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies (Document BG-2009-7-D10)

R-2009-7-7 *The establishment of an Evaluation Committee for the Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies, in accordance with the composition set out in the Evaluation Procedures for Senior Academic Administrators and the President and Vice-Chancellor prior to the Expiry of their First Mandate (Policy BD-8) and as outlined in Document BG-2009-7-D10, was approved by consent.*

7. Ratification of a decision of the Executive Committee regarding liquor permits (Document BG-2009-7-D11)

R-2009-7-8 *The decision of the Executive Committee made at its meeting of October 23, 2009 regarding authorizations for the obtention of liquor permits, as fully detailed in Document BG-2009-7-D11, was ratified by consent.*

REGULAR

8. Business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda

There was no business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda.

9. Presentation on Knowledge Infrastructure Program funding

Dr. Woodsworth began her presentation on the Knowledge Infrastructure Program by conveying a brief overview of the program's background which was originally announced in March 2009 as part of the federal government's budget. Although education is under the jurisdiction of the provinces, universities have been advocating for increased research support at the national level via the granting agencies. While a $2 billion infusion was announced over two years nation-wide for colleges and universities, the entire amount does not go directly to research. The money is to be used for research and knowledge in the broad sense, with emphasis being placed on research and development on both new construction and refurbishments.

Under the program, Concordia has received funds for four projects, one of which is expected to be officially announced shortly. More specifically, the University received $23.9 million for the Centre for Structural and Functional Genomics, which focuses on one of Concordia's priority areas of research: energy, environment and bioproducts. The Richard J. Renaud Science Complex will be expanded, and the centre will house researchers, graduate students and research and post-doctoral fellows from a range of disciplines. Concordia has proven leadership in the development of sustainable biotechnologies, and the centre will constitute a hub of environmental genomics research in Canada.

The PERFORM (Prevention, Evaluation, Rehabilitation and FORMation) Research Centre will bring together researchers in exercise science, physiology, nutrition, physical therapies and potentially other disciplines. Its multi-disciplinary approach to well-being and overall health is a key component to the University's strategic research plan. Moreover, Concordia researchers will collaborate with partners in the Montreal health networks. Concordia received $34.9 million in funding for the centre which will be built on the south end of the Loyola Campus and connected to the existing sports and recreation facilities. Dr. Woodsworth pointed out that, despite not having a medical school, the University is increasingly known for its health research.

Concordia is also recognized for its expertise in renewable energy technologies and green building design, as most recently evidenced by the solar wall in the new JMSB building. Accordingly, $4.6 million has been received to build an Environmental

Chamber in the basement of the Hall Building which will serve as a research facility for Concordia's Centre for Building Studies and the pan-Canadian Solar Building Research Network. The President noted that this will be the only research facility of its kind in Canada.

Dr. Woodsworth indicated that the University is awaiting the final confirmation of funding in the amount of $11 million for the relocation and expansion of the Performing Arts. She reminded Governors that the lease for the departments of Theatre and Dance was not renewed beyond June 2009, causing those departments to relocate. New facilities for those departments will support research and creativity across disciplines providing expertise and direct links to other universities and various cultural industries. While not forced to move, the Music Department was scattered in several locations on the Loyola Campus in poor cramped quarters, and therefore it has been decided to move them to good facilities concentrated on the SGW Campus.

The President said that Concordia's share of $80 million of the $745 million allocated to Quebec universities and some hospitals was a favorable result considering the Knowledge Infrastructure Program's emphasis on research, emphasizing that the result was due to the excellent collaboration among different units of the University. She concluded her presentation by showing short video clips of four researchers involved in the projects referred to hereinabove. Pursuant to the presentation, a discussion ensued during which Dr. Woodsworth and Dr. Dandurand responded to questions.

10. Report and recommendations of the Audit Committee

In response to queries, Me Freedman indicated that the items found in the column entitled "Autres éléments" on page 1 of 3 of the Statement of salaries, Document BG-2009-7-D13, included payments for bonuses or teaching contracts. The government provides a descriptive guide of what is to be included under that column, and he suggested that going forward this be included in the documents provided to Governors. He also explained that some former senior administrators were still receiving payments in accordance with their contracts or the arrangements made upon stepping down. With respect to the column entitled "Droits d'indemnité de départ exercés", Me Freedman confirmed that the figures reflect for the most part the salary paid during administrative leave.

Dr. Kryzanowski asked that clarification about the policy regarding administrative leave be recorded in the Minutes. Me Freedman replied that administrative leave forms part of the remuneration package of senior academic administrators, as outlined the *Policy concerning the Remuneration of Senior Administrators*, copy of which is included in the Governor's Handbook. In the past, non-academic senior administrators had also been entitled to administrative leave but this is no longer the case under the revised policy.

Dr. Woodsworth added that only those non-academic senior administrators who have contracts signed prior to the approval of the revised policy would be entitled to administrative leave if it was included in their contracts, but as noted by Me Freedman, going forward administrative leave is reserved exclusively for senior academic administrators. She explained that academic administrators relinquish sabbatical leaves

during their terms, and therefore administrative leave allows them the opportunity to retool to get back into academia once their terms have been completed.

10.1 Approval of Concordia University's financial statements for the fiscal year ended on May 31, 2009 (Document BG-2009-7-D12)

10.2 Approval of the *Rapport financier annuel* for the fiscal year ended on May 31, 2009

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Woodsworth, Vineberg), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2009-7-9 *THAT, upon recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve the financial statements for the fiscal year ended on May 31, 2009, as reported by Concordia's external auditors Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton and outlined in Document BG-2009-7-D12, subject to receipt by the external auditors of the final confirmation from the Government of Quebec regarding the "calculs définitifs";*

THAT, should there be no material change further to the receipt of the "calculs définitifs", the Board of Governors authorize the Executive Committee to approve revised financial statements as well as the Rapport financier annuel for the fiscal year ended on May 31, 2009;

THAT the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Peter Kruyt, and the President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Judith Woodsworth, be designated to sign the financial statements and the "Rapport financier annuel" on behalf of the University;

THAT the University be authorized to submit the said "Rapport" to the Ministry of Education of Québec.

10.3 Approval of the État de traitment (Statement of salaries) of Concordia's senior administrators in accordance with Bill 95 (Document BG-2009-7-D13)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Woodsworth, Vineberg), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2009-7-10 *THAT, upon recommendation of the Audit Committee, the État de traitement (Statement of salaries) set out in Document BG-2009-7-D13, be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education of Québec.*

10.4 Approval of the projected audit fees for the fiscal year ended on May 31, 2009

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Woodsworth, Vineberg), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2009-7-11 *THAT, upon recommendation of the Audit Committee, the audit fees for the fiscal year ended on May 31, 2009 be approved and that payment of said fees be authorized.*

10.5 Appointment of the external auditors for the fiscal year beginning on June 1, 2009 and ending on May 31, 2010

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Woodsworth, Vineberg), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2009-7-12 *THAT, upon recommendation of the Audit Committee, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton be reappointed as the University's external auditors for the fiscal year ending on May 31, 2010.*

11. Tuition fee increase in the Master of Business Administration (Executive Option) (EMBA) program for the Fall 2010 (BG-2009-7-D14)

Ms. Khani related the situation of an international graduate student who had registered to Concordia based a tuition rate only to find out later on that the tuition had been increased, causing great financial hardship for the student in question. Therefore, she wondered if students currently in the EMBA program would be subject to this increase. Mr. Kruyt confirmed that only new students registering for the Fall 2010 term would be subject to the increased tuition.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Woodsworth, Kryzanowski), it was RESOLVED by the required two-thirds majority:

R-2009-7-13 *THAT, upon recommendation of the John Molson School of Business and the President's Executive Group, the Board approve the tuition fee increase in the Master of Business Administration (Executive Option) program (EMBA) from $52,000 to $68,000, beginning with registration for the Fall term of 2010 (2010/2), as set out in Document BG-2009-7-D14.*

12. Update from the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of Graduate Studies

Dr. Dandurand apprised the Board that the Committee had met three times so far, to discuss whether or not to hire a search consultant at its June meeting, to select the search consultant at its August meeting and to finalize the profile for ideal candidate at its September meeting. At its next meeting scheduled for November 26, the Committee will review the long list of candidates.

13. Update on the search for a Chief Communications Officer

Dr. Woodsworth informed Governors that following John Parisella's departure, a study was conducted on the University's needs in communications, leading to the new title and job profile for the head of that unit. As a result, the search is underway for a Chief Communications Officer. The position is advertised on the Concordia website as well as on a number of specialized websites. The services of Odgers Berndtson, formerly Ray & Berndtson, have been retained. Of the 188 potential candidates who were contacted, 28 have expressed interest. The list will be narrowed down and a short list will be determined.

14. Report of the President (Document BG-2009-7-D15)

Dr. Woodsworth noted that a detailed account of her activities was included in her written report. She noted that since the last meeting a large number of successful events had taken place, such as Homecoming, the Knowledge Infrastructure Program announcement and the inauguration of the School of the Canadian Irish Studies. She apprised the Board that she had co-chaired, together with André Desmarais, Jacques Lamarre and Brian Levitt, the Annual Policy Forum recently held in Montreal which was organized by the Canadian American Business Council.

The President was proud to inform the Board that Concordia's Women's Rugby team won the Quebec championship and will be participating in the CIS nationals championship and that the Concordia Baseball team won the CIBA nationals championship.

14.1 Enrolment update (Document BG-2009-7-D16)

Dr. Woodsworth confirmed that the predictions of increased enrolments due to the economic downturn have materialized. According to AUCC, university enrolments across Canada are up by 4.1% at the undergraduate level and by 7.2% at the graduate level. In Quebec, undergraduate enrolments are up by 3.1% while enrolments at the Master's level are up by 11% and by 12.7% at the PhD level. Concordia is ahead of the curve at both the national and Quebec levels, with an overall enrolment increase of 4.6% (3.5%, 11% and 12.7% at the undergraduate, Master's and PhD levels respectively).

14.2 Globe and Mail Canadian university report card (Document BG-2009-7-D17)

Dr. Woodsworth referred to the chart showing the three-year trend of Concordia's results in the Globe and Mail Canadian University Report. Though this report is not scientific given that the data is collected through student surveys, nonetheless it provides a good indication of how students feel about the University. While the grades are Bs & Cs, all but one category have either maintained or improved since prior years, signaling that the University is on the right track.

15. Any other business

There was no other business to bring before the Board at this time.

16. Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Governors will be held on Thursday, December 11, 2009, at 8 a.m., in Room EV 2.260, SGW Campus.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Danielle Tessier
Secretary of the Board of Governors